

REMARKS

Claims 1-51 are pending in the present application. Applicants have amended Claims 1, 10, 18, 27, 35 and 44 herewith. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Amendments were made to the specification to correct errors and to clarify the specification. No new matter has been added by any of the amendments to the specification.

Applicants would initially like to thank the Examiner for taking the time to conduct a telephonic interview on 03/23/2004. While no agreement was reached, Applicants' attorney pointed out particular key features of the present invention, including multiple intervening nodes (e.g. first node and third node) having the ability to modify task results/messages.

I. Specification Objection

The examiner objected to the Specification, saying:

- a) The pages of the disclosure are not numbered; and
- b) It is unclear whether reference numeral 402 is a requesting client.

At to item a), it appears that the disclosure is numbered, in that page numbers appear at the top center of each page (at least on the file copy being used by Applicants' attorney. Applicants confirmed this with the Examiner in the above mentioned interview conducted on 03/23/04.

As to item b), Applicants have amended the Specification at pages 11 and 16 in an attempt to overcome the Examiner's concerns.

Therefore the objection to the Specification has been overcome.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 103, Obviousness

A. The Examiner rejected Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Navarre et al. U.S. Patent 6,442,611, and further in view of Wang et al. U.S. Patent 6,119,079. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With respect to Claim 1, such claim has been amended to further emphasize the multi-nodal aspect of the present invention. Specification support for such amendment is shown to be at least at page 11, line 18 – page 14, line 9 and Figures 4 and 5. As presently claimed, two intervening nodes – a second node and a third node – are involved in modifying a portion of the results from the first node. The cited reference only contemplates using a single node – the gateway – to modify another node's results. As amended, Claim 1 advantageously provides that ability to translate or modify information in a widely distributed application environment, where intervening nodes can further delegate or sub-task a part of the requested application and accommodate data from differing locales having differing data types. None of the cited references teach or suggest this claimed feature (multi-node modification of the results from a downstream node) or its resulting advantages.

Therefore, the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 has been overcome.

B. The Examiner rejected Claims 2, 10-19, 27-36 and 44-51 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Navarre et al. U.S. Patent 6,442,611 in view of Wang et al. U.S. Patent 6,119,079, and further in view of Moharram, U.S. Patent 6,079,036. This rejection is respectfully traversed as follows.

Applicants traverse the rejection of Claim 2 for similar reasons to those given above regarding Claim 1 (of which Claim 2 depends upon).

With respect to Claim 10, such claim has been amended to emphasize important aspects of the claimed invention, wherein results from a piece of a distributed application executed on one node and returned to an upstream node can be manipulated by modifying message/log files into the locale of a requesting client and by appending such results onto results for the upstream node (Specification page 10, lines 1-6; page 11, lines 18-31). Specifically, Claim 10 has been amended to recite “modifying, at the first node, at least one of the log messages in the set of log messages received in the result to produce a modified result and appending the modified result to an existing log system on the first node, the existing log system comprising a first node result of execution from one or more tasks executed by the first node”. In contrast, the teachings of the cited Navarre reference describe a gateway node that receives a request from a client application,

transmits a set of data access transactions to the respective server applications, receiving a set of responses from the server applications, and integrating the set of responses for presentation to the client application (Col. 2, lines 50-65). There is no teaching or suggestion that this gateway node itself executes its own tasks or has its own log system to which log messages from other nodes are appended to. The other cited references in the Claim 10 rejection have similar teaching deficiencies. Thus, it is shown that amended Claim 10 is not obvious in view of the cited references.

Applicants traverse the rejection of Claims 11-17 for similar reasons to those given above regarding Claim 10 (of which Claims 11-17 depend upon).

With respect to Claim 18 (and dependent Claim 19), such claim has been amended in similar fashion to Claim 1, and Applicants traverse the rejection of Claim 18 (and dependent Claim 19) for similar reasons to those given above regarding Claim 1.

With respect to Claim 27 (and dependent Claims 28-34), Applicants have amended such claim in similar fashion to Claim 10, and Applicants traverse the rejection of Claim 27 (and dependent Claims 28-34) for similar reasons to those given above regarding Claim 10.

With respect to Claim 35 (and dependent Claim 36), such claim has been amended in similar fashion to Claim 1, and Applicants traverse the rejection of Claim 35 (and dependent Claim 36) for similar reasons to those given above regarding Claim 1.

With respect to Claim 44 (and dependent Claims 45-51), Applicants have amended such claim in similar fashion to Claim 10, and Applicants traverse the rejection of Claim 44 (and dependent Claims 45-51) for similar reasons to those given above regarding Claim 10.

Therefore, the rejection of Claims 2, 10-19, 27-36 and 44-51 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 has been overcome.

C. The Examiner rejected Claims 3-9, 20-26 and 37-43 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Navarre et al. U.S. Patent 6,442,611 in view of Wang et al. U.S. Patent 6,119,079, and further in view of Moharram, U.S. Patent 6,079,036, and further in view of Otteson U.S. Patent 5,867,659. This rejection is respectfully traversed for reasons given above regarding their respective independent Claims 1, 18 and 35.

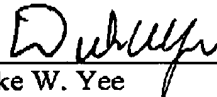
Therefore, the rejection of Claims 3-9, 20-26 and 37-43 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 has been overcome.

III. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over the cited references and is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

DATE: 4/2/04

Respectfully submitted,



Duke W. Yee
Reg. No. 34,285
Wayne P. Bailey
Reg. No. 34,289
Carstens, Yee & Cahoon, LLP
P.O. Box 802334
Dallas, TX 75380
(972) 367-2001
Attorneys for Applicants